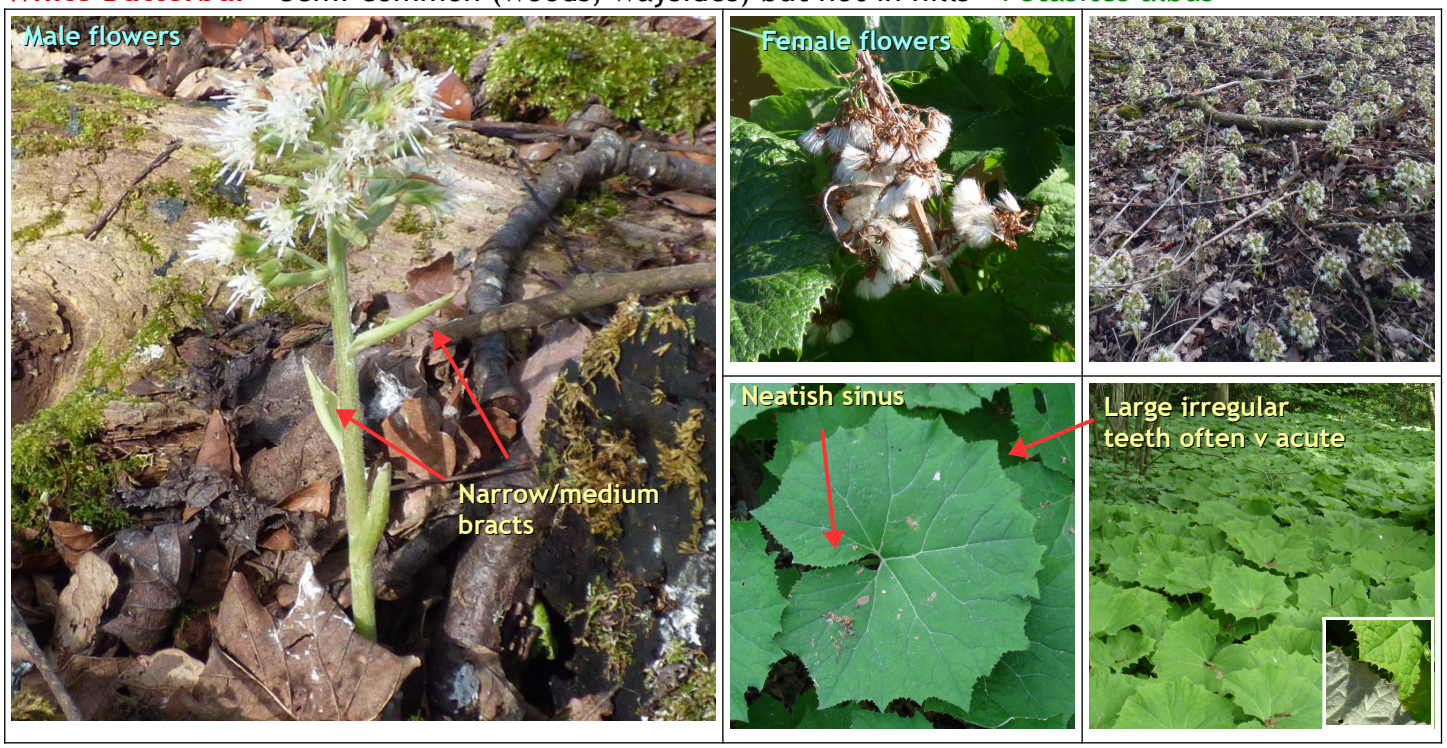
Butterburs in Edinburgh / Lothians

Download Latest Version • All Sheets

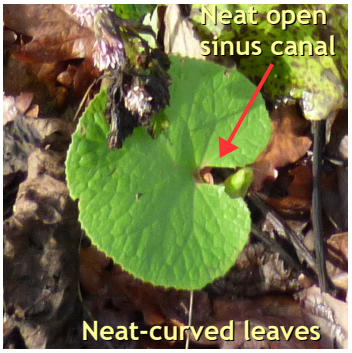
There are four Petasites in Edinburgh - Common, White and Giant Butterburs and Winter Heliotrope. All form large patches of largish leaves which come out after the flowers (except Winter Heliotrope where the leaves appear then the flowers). Male and female flowers are on separate plants.

Common Butterbur - Generally you'll only encounter male flowers, but female records appear south and west of Galashiels; see White Butterbur for a typical female look - Widespread (damp, often shaded) except in hills - Petasites hybridus

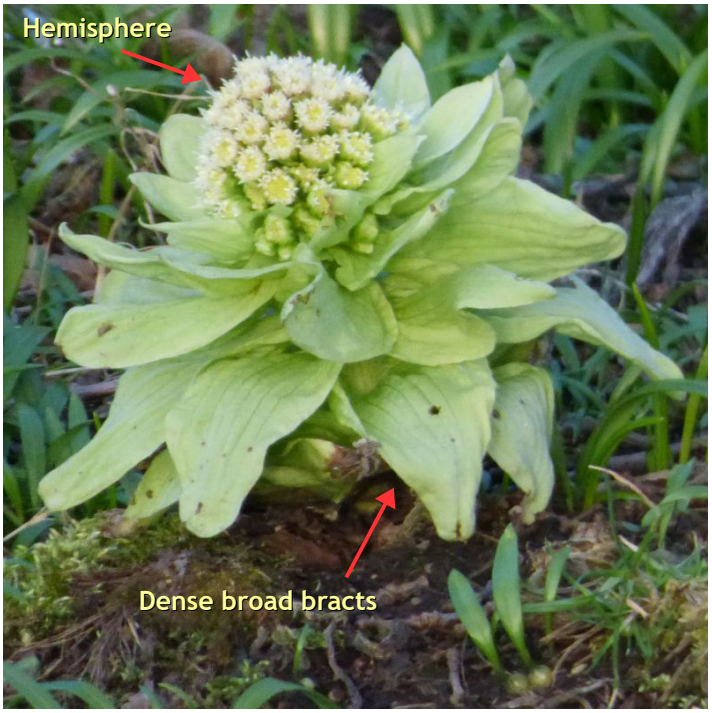
White Butterbur - Semi-common (woods, waysides) but not in hills - Petasites albus



Winter Heliotrope - Always male (ignore Blamey & Fitter description!) - Common near Edinburgh city (rough ground, waysides) - Petasites fragrans



Giant Butterbur - Frequent in South-East portion of city (damp places). Petasites japonicus



To add leaves etc...

Hybrid Giant Butterbur x Winter Heliotrope - Outside region - Petasites japonicus × fragrans
This rare hybrid from Sussex can be found pictured and detailed on the sussexflora.org website.

Photo : Dawn Nelson

Info

Updated : 2020-01-19 – please check you have the latest version!

Contact : David Merrick – facebook.com/meteorquake

Facebook Botany Group for Lothians : facebook.com/groups/lothiansbotany

All items in this Series : paintdrawer.co.uk/nature/edinburgh/downloads.htm